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SACRED MELODIES,



OR

HYMNS FOR YOUTH;

WITH APPROPRIATE

SELECTIONS FROM SCRIPTURE.

"Now, in thy youth, beseech of Him
Who giveth, upbraiding not,
That his light in thy heart become not dim,
And his love be unforgot;
And thy God, in the darkest of days will be
Greenness, and beauty, and strength to thee."

BERNARD BARTON.

NEW-YORK:
WILEY AND PUTNAM,
161 Broadway.

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1841.

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P R E F A C E .

It will not, perhaps, be considered irrelevant to state the object of the author in presenting this little work to the public. Every thing that tends to interest the young in religion, must be desirable to christian parents; and there is probably no religious exercise so agreeable to children, as that of committing hymns to memory.

In the various and beautiful selections of devotional poetry which adorn our literature, there are but few hymns adapted to the comprehension of children; and this little work has been written with the view of supplying a volume suitable for youth. The hymns are intended, (with the selected texts of scripture,) for Sabbath lessons; and may be used by all

parents and teachers, who wish to bring up children “in the nurture and admonition of the Lord.”

In this humble attempt to advance the cause of the Redeemer, the author has been encouraged by a conviction of the great importance of early religious culture.

Christian parent, although the seed be small when sown in the bosom of thy offspring, yet, by God’s blessing, it will not die. And although for years it may be, (as it too often is,) unfruitful; still, when the dew of God’s grace shall visit that young heart, it will not fall on sterile ground—and the seed planted will spring up, and blossom, and at length yield an abundant harvest.

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ERRATA.

Page 29, second verse, third line, for *can'st*, read *canst*.

" 33, first verse, " " " "

" 53, first verse, first and third lines, " "

SACRED MELODIES.

Rev. xxi. 1 and 21 to 27.

AND I saw a new heaven and a new earth : for the first heaven and the first earth were passed away ;

And the twelve gates *were* twelve pearls ; every several gate was of one pearl : and the street of the city *was* pure gold, as it were transparent glass.

And I saw no temple therein : for the Lord God Almighty and the Lamb are the temple of it.

And the city had no need of the sun, neither of the moon, to shine in it : for the glory of God did lighten it, and the Lamb *is* the light thereof.

And the nations of them which are saved shall walk in the light of it : and the kings of the earth do bring their glory and honor into it.

And the gates of it shall not be shut at all by day : for there shall be no night there.

And they shall bring the glory and honor of the nations into it.

And there shall in no wise enter into it any thing that defileth, neither *whatsoever* worketh abomination, or *maketh* a lie : but they which are written in the Lamb's book of life.

HEAVEN.

“Eye hath not seen, nor ear heard, neither have entered into the heart of man, the things which God hath prepared for them that love him.” 1 *Cor.* 2, 9.

THERE is a land I fain would call my own,
A land, where springs of comfort ever flow ;
Where sickness, pain, and anguish are unknown,
And virtue sheds its bright, celestial glow.

There is a home where peace and endless joy
Are ne’er o’ershadow’d by the gloom of care ;
Where love and praise ten thousand tongues employ,
And countless souls its tranquil blessings share.

There is a crown which time can never fade,
A crown, which earthly victors cannot wear ;
A crown, for which a ransom hath been paid,
While untold millions in its glory share.

That land is heaven—that home is in the skies,
Where sainted Christians round their Saviour
press ;
'T is he who holds that bright and glitt’ring prize,
And bids them wear the crown of righteous-
ness.

Ps. ciii. 1 to 6.

BLESS the Lord, O my soul : and all that is with in me, *bless* his holy name.

Bless the Lord, O my soul, and forget not all his benefits :

Who forgiveth all thine iniquities ; who healeth all thy diseases :

Who redeemeth thy life from destruction ; who crowneth thee with loving kindness and tender mercies ;

Who satisfieth thy mouth with good *things* ; so *that* thy youth is renewed like the eagle's.

The Lord executeth righteousness and judgment for all that are oppressed.

Ps. ciii. 13 to 18.

LIKE as a father pitieth *his* children, so the Lord pitieth them that fear him.

For he knoweth our frame ; he remembereth that we *are* dust.

As for man, his days *are* as grass : as a flower of the field, so he flourisheth.

For the wind passeth over it, and it is gone : and the place thereof shall know it no more.

But the mercy of the Lord *is* from everlasting to everlasting upon them that fear him, and his righteousness unto children's children ;

To such as keep his covenant, and to those that remember his commandments to do them.

GRATITUDE TO GOD.

“ Oh that men would praise the Lord for his goodness, and for his wonderful works to the children of men.” *Psalm* cvii. 8.

FATHER! I call upon thy name,
Oh! listen to my humble pray'r;
From thee my life, my being came,
Still let me own thy guardian care.

Each valued gift that I possess,
Was thine, oh! Father, to bestow;
While life shall last, let me confess,
That ev'ry good to thee I owe.

My parents—friends—and happy home;
The comforts that around me press;
I know, oh! Father, that they come
From Thee, the fount of blessedness.

How can I then repay thee, Lord,
For all the mercies I have known?
My lips and heart with one accord
Shall praise the goodness thou hast shown.

Gen. i. 14 to 18.

AND God said, Let there be lights in the firmament of the heaven to divide the day from the night ; and let them be for signs, and for seasons, and for days, and years :

And let them be for lights in the firmament of the heaven to give light upon the earth : and it was so.

And God made two great lights ; the greater light to rule the day, and the lesser light to rule the night : *he made* the stars also.

And God set them in the firmament of the heaven to give light upon the earth,

And to rule over the day and over the night, and to divide the light from the darkness ; and God saw that *it was* good.

Ps. cxxxix. 11 and 12.

IF I say, surely the darkness shall cover me ; even the night shall be light about me.

Yea, the darkness hideth not from thee ; but the night shineth as the day : the darkness and the light *are* both alike *to thee*.

Ps. cii. 25 to 27.

OF old hast thou laid the foundation of the earth : and the heavens *are* the work of thy hands.

They shall perish, but thou shalt endure : yea, all of them shall wax old like a garment ; as a vesture shalt thou change them, and they shall be changed :

But thou *art* the same, and thy years shall have no end.

EVENING.

“ Let my prayer be set forth before thee as incense ; and the lifting up of my hands as the evening sacrifice.” *Psalm clxi.* 2.

THE setting sun has sunk behind the hill,
The glowing sky is fading from my view ;
The rising moon is shining on the rill,
And nature wears a robe of deeper hue.

The whip-poor-will has sung his evening hymn,
The sportive lambs are gather'd in the fold ;
The twilight landscape to the eye grows dim,
And earth and sky a solemn stillness hold.

Whose is the hand that hung each gleaming star
Within the vault of yonder deep'ning sky ?
The hand of God hath scatter'd them afar,
And bid them light the firmament on high.

Whose is the eye that watches o'er our sleep
When night's dark drapery is clos'd around ?
When mortal eyes their vigils cease to keep,
And mortal ears are shut to every sound ?

God's eye can penetrate the darkest gloom
That ever shrouds our destiny below ;
From infant's cradle, to the old man's tomb,
Its vigil, no forgetfulness can know.

Rom. xii. 10.

BE kindly affectioned one to another with brotherly love ; in honor preferring one another.

1st John iv. 7.

BELOVED, let us love one another : for love is of God ; and every one that loveth is born of God, and knoweth God.

1st John iv. 20 and 21.

IF a man say, I love God, and hateth his brother, he is a liar : for he that loveth not his brother whom he hath seen, how can he love God whom he hath not seen ?

And this commandment have we from him, that he who loveth God love his brother also.

Heb. xiii. 1.

LET brotherly love continue.

Matt. vii. 3 to 6.

WHY beholdest thou the mote that is in thy brother's eye, but considerest not the beam that is in thine own eye ?

Or how wilt thou say to thy brother, Let me pull out the mote out of thine eye ; and behold, a beam is in thine own eye ?

Thou hypocrite, first cast out the beam out of thine own eye ; and then shalt thou see clearly to cast out the mote out of thy brother's eye.

BROTHERLY LOVE.

“Love worketh no ill to his neighbor.” *Rom. xiii. 10.*

THE love of God I seek in vain,
If I can give my brother pain
 By fretful words or angry blow ;
For God unseen can look within
And mark the nature of my sin,
 And ev’ry hidden secret know.

In vain I say my hymn of praise,
In vain to God my voice I raise,
 If I provoke my sister’s tears ;
For He in anger will look down,
And see my harshness with a frown,
 And punish me with guilty fears.

Then let me strive to love them well,
That while within one home we dwell
 Our hearts may still united be ;
For death may come with sudden grasp,
And tear the dear ones from our clasp,
 To meet—but in eternity.

James i. 2, 3.

MY brethren, count it all joy when ye fall into divers temptations ;

Knowing *this*, that the trying of your faith worketh patience.

James i. 12.

BLESSED *is* the man that endureth temptation : for when he is tried, he shall receive the crown of life, which the Lord hath promised to them that love him.

1 Cor. x. 13.

THERE hath no temptation taken you but such as is common to man : but God *is* faithful, who will not suffer you to be tempted above that ye are able ; but will with the temptation also make a way to escape, that ye may be able to bear *it*.

Heb. iv. 15.

FOR we have not an high priest which cannot be touched with the feeling of our infirmities : but was in all points tempted like as *we are*, yet without sin.

Rev. iii. 10.

BECAUSE thou hast kept the word of my patience, I also will keep thee from the hour of temptation, which shall come upon all the world, to try them that dwell upon the earth.

TEMPTATION.

“ I also will keep from the hour of temptation.” *Rev. iii. 10.*

FATHER ! grant to me thy blessing
While I kneel to worship Thee ;
Pardon, peace, and joy possessing,
Let me from temptation flee.

Father ! let not earthly treasure
Wean my priceless soul from Thee ;
Oh ! forbid that fleeting pleasure
Should seduce or fetter me.

Father ! pardon all the errors
Which thine eye *alone* can see ;
Let not Satan's guilty terrors
Keep my soul from heav'n and Thee.

Father ! each day's sins regretting,
I will pray on bended knee ;
And each wordly care forgetting,
To the cross of Christ I 'll flee.

Father ! let the precious burden
Which upon that cross I see,
Be my hope—my shield—my guerdon—
It can save, and shelter me.

Ps. cxviii. 24.

THIS *is* the day *which* the LORD hath made ; we will rejoice and be glad in it.

Deut. v. 12 to 14.

KEEP the sabbath day to sanctify it, as the LORD thy God hath commanded thee.

Six days thou shalt labour, and do all thy work :

But the seventh day *is* the sabbath of the LORD thy God : *in it* thou shalt not do any work, thou, nor thy son, nor thy daughter, nor thy man-servant, nor thy maid-servant, nor thine ox, nor thine ass, nor any of thy cattle, nor thy stranger that *is* within thy gates ; that thy man-servant and thy maid-servant may rest as well as thou.

Is. lviii. 13 and 14.

IF thou turn away thy foot from the sabbath, *from* doing thy pleasure on my holy day ; and call the sabbath a delight, the holy of the LORD, honorable ; and shalt honor him, not doing thine own ways, nor finding thine own pleasure, nor speaking *thine own* words :

Then shalt thou delight thyself in the LORD ; and I will cause thee to ride upon the high places of the earth, and feed thee with the heritage of Jacob thy father ; for the mouth of the LORD hath spoken *it*.

THE SABBATH.

“Remember the Sabbath day to keep it holy.” *Exodus* xx. 8.

I HEAR the sweet chimes of the church going
bells,
They call us to worship with praise and with
pray'r
The God who in heaven eternally dwells,
And loves us, when we to his temple repair.

I know that He smiles on the young of his fold,
When, singing the praise that is due to his name,
They offer a tribute that 's brighter than gold,
And yield him the incense to which he has claim.

I will pray to be pure—for Jesus was pure ;
I will pray to be good—for angels are good ;
I will pray him to bless the sick and the poor ;
And send to them comfort, and clothing, and food.

A week of enjoyment and blessing has flown,
And shall I not thank him for all he has giv'n ?
Oh ! yes, I will ask him to make me his own,
And take me at last to his bosom in heav'n.

Ps. cxxxix. 1 to 12.

O LORD, thou hast searched me, and know *me*.

Thou knowest my down-sitting and mine up-
rising, thou understandest my thought afar off.

Thou compassest my path and my lying down,
and art acquainted *with* all my ways.

For *there is* not a word in my tongue, *but* lo, O
LORD, thou knowest it altogether.

Thou hast beset me behind and before, and laid
thy hand upon me.

Such knowledge *is* too wonderful for me; it is
high, I cannot *attain* unto it.

Whither shall I go from thy Spirit? or whither
shall I flee from thy presence?

If I ascend up into heaven, thou *art* there: if I
make my bed in hell, behold, thou *art there*.

If I take the wings of the morning, *and* dwell in
the uttermost parts of the sea;

Even there shall thy hand lead me, and thy right
hand shall hold me.

If I say, Surely the darkness shall cover me;
even the night shall be light about me.

Yea, the darkness hideth not from thee; but the
night shineth as the day: the darkness and the
light *are* both alike *to thee*.

THE WATCHFULNESS OF GOD.

“The Lord is good to all: and his tender mercies are over all his works.” *Psalms* cxlv. 9.

IN ev'ry lovely thing I trace
The hand of God divine ;
In ev'ry flow'ring shrub and tree
I see his glories shine.

He made the earth—the sky—the sea—
And lighted ev'ry star
That glitters in the firmament,
And sheds its light afar.

He made the birds that sweetly sing
Their early matin lay ;
They carol forth their joyful hymn
To greet the waking day.

The worm that crawls beneath my feet
Is worthy of my care ;
For ev'ry creature God hath made,
His watchfulness doth share.

In stormiest day, and darkest night,
He guards us all from harm ;
And spreads o'er earth, and sea, and heav'n,
His everlasting arm.

John vi. 35 to 40.

AND Jesus said unto them, I am the bread of life : he that cometh to me, shall never hunger ; and he that believeth on me, shall never thirst.

But I said unto you, That ye also have seen me, and believe not.

All that the Father giveth me, shall come to me ; and him that cometh to me, I will in no wise cast out.

For I came down from heaven, not to do mine own will, but the will of him that sent me.

And this is the Father's will which hath sent me, that of all which he hath given me, I should lose nothing, but should raise it up again at the last day.

And this is the will of him that sent me, that every one which seeth the Son, and believeth on him, may have everlasting life ; and I will raise him up at the last day.

Matt. ix. 27 to 29.

AND when Jesus departed thence, two blind men followed him, crying, and saying, *Thou* Son of David, have mercy on us.

And when he was come into the house, the blind men came to him : and Jesus saith unto them, Believe ye that I am able to do this ? They said unto him, Yea, Lord.

Then touched he their eyes, saying, According to your faith, be it unto you.

DEPENDANCE UPON CHRIST.

“Christ is the propitiation for our sins: and not for ours only,
but also for the sins of the whole world.” 1 *John* ii. 2.

ALMIGHTY Father! wilt thou bend
Thine ear unto an infant's pray'r;
Oh! let thy love on me descend,
Thy daily mercies let me share.

Father, I wish to do thy will,
And to thy arms my soul resign;
Be thou my guide—my guardian still—
From childhood's dawn, to life's decline.

I bring no off'ring worthy thee,
For I am vile in word and deed;
But Christ my Saviour died for me,
And lives, with thee to intercede.

In his beloved name I come;
On his atonement I depend;
Wilt thou not take the pilgrim home,
And be in death the pilgrim's friend.

Ps. xli. 1 to 3.

BLESSED *is* he that considereth the poor : the Lord will deliver him in time of trouble.

The Lord will preserve him, and keep him alive ; *and* he shall be blessed upon the earth ; and thou wilt not deliver him unto the will of his enemies.

The Lord will strengthen him upon the bed of languishing : thou wilt make all his bed in his sickness.

Job xxix. 11 to 16.

WHEN the ear heard *me*, then it blessed me ; and when the eye saw *me*, it gave witness to me :

Because I delivered the poor that cried, and the fatherless, and *him that had* none to help him.

The blessing of him that was ready to perish came upon me : and I caused the widow's heart to sing for joy.

I put on righteousness, and it clothed me : my judgment *was* as a robe and a diadem.

I was eyes to the blind, and feet *was* I to the lame.

I *was* a father to the poor : and the cause *which* I knew not I searched out.

Acts xx. 35.

I HAVE showed you all things, how that so labouring ye ought to support the weak, and to remember the words of the Lord Jesus, how he said, It is more blessed to give than to receive.

KINDNESS TO THE POOR.

“He that hath pity upon the poor, lendeth unto the Lord ; and that which he hath given will he pay him again. *Prov. xix. 17.*

OH ! may I ne'er despise the poor
Who daily beg their scanty meal ;
Who, cold and faint, relief implore,
And trembling make their sad appeal.

Oh ! may I ne'er look down with scorn
Upon the tatter'd garb of age ;
Nor coldly let my heart refuse
The beggar's mis'ry to assuage.

God gave to me—withheld from them—
The wealth that so much ease secures ;
Let me not then forget the pangs
Which humble penury endures.

My daily wants are all supplied,
While cold and care I never knew ;
How diff'rent far the lot of those,
Who suffer cold and hunger too.

Father ! incline my youthful heart
To look with pity on the poor ;
And let me add my little mite
Whene'er I see them at our door.

Ps. cxvi. 15.

PRECIOUS in the sight of the Lord *is* the death of his saints.

Ps. xxxvii. 37.

MARK the perfect *man*, and behold the upright : for the end of *that man is* peace.

Rom. xiv. 7 to 9.

NONE of us liveth to himself, and no man dieth to himself.

For whether we live, we live unto the Lord ; and whether we die, we die unto the Lord : whether we live therefore, or die, we are the Lord's.

For to this end Christ both died, and rose, and revived, that he might be Lord both of the dead and living.

Ps. lxxiii. 24 to 26.

THOU shalt guide me with thy counsel, and afterward receive me *to* glory.

Whom have I in heaven *but thee* ? and *there is* none upon earth *that* I desire besides thee.

My flesh and my heart faileth : *but* God *is* the strength of my heart, and my portion for ever.

Ps. xlix. 15.

BUT God will redeem my soul from the power of the grave : for he shall receive me.

DEATH.

“The righteous hath hope in his death.” *Prov. xiv. 32.*

THE hour of death is drawing near,
And it *may* quickly come ;
The christian's hope—the christian's fear—
Are giv'n to guide our sojourn here,
And point us to our home.

The shades of death where terrors lie,
With dark'ning hue will come ;
But heav'nly help is ever nigh
To cheer our journey to the sky,
And lead us to our home.

A Saviour's love can light the gloom,
That o'er life's close may come ;
He died to save us from our doom,
And, rising from his lowly tomb,
He calls us to our home.

Christ is the rock on which we lay
Our surest hope to come ;
He sheds the true undying ray,
That lights the christian on his way,
To an eternal home.

Jer. iii. 4.

WILT thou not from this time cry unto me, My Father, thou *art* the guide of my youth ?

Ps. xxxii. 8.

I will instruct thee, and teach thee in the way which thou shalt go : I will guide thee with mine eye.

Prov. iii. 5 and 6.

TRUST in the Lord with all thy heart : and lean not unto thine own understanding.

In all thy ways acknowledge him, and he shall direct thy paths.

Ps. lxi. 1 and 2.

HEAR my cry, O God ; attend unto my prayer.

From the end of the earth will I cry unto thee, when my heart is overwhelmed : lead me to the rock *that is* higher than I.

Jer. x. 23.

O LORD, I know that the way of man *is* not in himself : *it is* not in man that walketh to direct his steps.

Matt. xi. 28.

COME unto me, all *ye* that labour, and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest.

GUIDANCE.

“Thou shalt guide me with thy counsel, and afterward receive me to glory.”—*Psalm lxxiii*, 24.

TEACH me, oh God ! the paths of sin to shun,
And lead me onward in thy heav'nly way ;
My youthful heart its trial hath begun,
Oh ! may it never from thy guidance stray.

Each day I live, some sin the mast'ry gains,
Although with tears my weakness I deplore ;
But thou can'st purify the deepest stains,
And to the path of life my feet restore.

Dark is the soul without some heav'nly ray,
To guide it towards its goal of future rest ;
Be thou my father—friend—and firmest stay,
Until I reach the mansions of the blest.

There I shall fear no more the tempter's pow'r,
For Christ hath snapp'd our chain, and set us
free ;
Sin ceas'd to triumph in his dying hour,
And death was “swallow'd up in victory.”

Ps. vi. 1 to 9.

O LORD, rebuke me not in thine anger, neither chasten me in thy hot displeasure.

Have mercy upon me, O Lord ; for I *am* weak :
O Lord, heal me : for my bones are vexed.

My soul is also sore vexed : but thou, O Lord,
how long ?

Return, O Lord, deliver my soul : O save me for
thy mercies' sake !

For in death *there is* no remembrance of thee : in
the grave who shall give thee thanks ?

I am weary with my groaning ; all the night make
I my bed to swim ; I water my couch with my tears.

Mine eye is consumed because of grief ; it waxeth
old because of all mine enemies.

Depart from me, all ye workers of iniquity ; for
the Lord hath heard the voice of my weeping.

The Lord hath heard my supplication ; the Lord
will receive my prayer.

Ps. xxv. 16 to 18.

TURN thee unto me, and have mercy upon me ; for
I *am* desolate and afflicted.

The troubles of my heart are enlarged : O bring
thou me out of my distresses.

Look upon mine affliction and my pain ; and forgive
all my sins.

SICKNESS.

“My flesh and my heart faileth : but God is the strength of my heart, and my portion for ever.” *Psalms* lxxiii. 26.

HIDE not thy face, oh ! God, when health has fled,
And sickness lays me on a fever'd bed ;
Thy sov'reign pow'r a holy balm can pour,
And to its wonted ease my frame restore.

In time of strength, I could forget the arm
That shelter'd this frail tenement from harm ;
But, feebly stretch'd upon a couch of pain,
I yearn to feel thy gift of health again.

Yet, without murm'ring, I would fain endure,
Until thy goodness shall see fit to cure ;
For well I know that mercy sends the pain,
To bring the wand'rer to thy arms again.

Here let me learn submission to thy will,
And be thy child in health or illness still ;
Until I reach that ever blessed home,
Where sickness, pain, and sorrow never come.

Ps. cxxv. 1 and 2.

THEY that trust in the Lord *shall be* as mount Zion, *which* cannot be removed, *but* abideth for ever.

As the mountains *are* round about Jerusalem, so the Lord *is* round about his people from henceforth even for ever.

Ps. xci. 9 to 11.

BECAUSE thou hast made the Lord *which is* my refuge, *even* the Most High, thy habitation ;

There shall no evil befall thee, neither shall any plague come nigh thy dwelling.

For he shall give his angels charge over thee, to keep thee in all thy ways.

Ps. xxvii. 14.

WAIT on the Lord : be of good courage, and he shall strengthen thy heart : wait, I say, on the Lord.

Ps. lv. 22.

CAST thy burden upon the Lord, and he shall sustain thee : he shall never suffer the righteous to be moved.

Ps. xxxvii. 5.

COMMIT thy way unto the Lord ; trust also in him : and he shall bring *it* to pass.

RELIANCE UPON GOD.

“My Father, thou art the guide of my youth.” *Jer. iii. 4.*

MY Father ! unto thee I come,
To thee in all my doubts repair ;
For thou can’st guard me when I stray,
And snatch my soul from Satan’s snare.
Guide of my youth ! oh make me free,
And fix my wav’ring heart on thee.

When from the truth I would depart—
When falsehood would my soul betray—
Then be thou near to check my sin,
And prove my safeguard and my stay.
Guide of my youth ! oh make me free,
And fix my wav’ring heart on thee.

Safe, when I trust thy promis’d love—
Lost, when I cease that love to prize—
Be thou the day-star from above,
To light me onward to the skies.
Guide of my youth ! oh make me free,
And fix my wand’ring heart on thee.

Prov. xxiv. 30 to 34.

I WENT by the field of the slothful, and by the vineyard of the man void of understanding ;

And lo, it was all grown over with thorns, *and* nettles had covered the face thereof, and the stone wall thereof was broken down.

Then I saw, *and* considered *it* well : I looked upon *it*, *and* received instruction.

Yet a little sleep, a little slumber, a little folding of the hands to sleep :

So shall thy poverty come *as* one that travelleth ; and thy want as an armed man.

Prov. xiii. 4.

THE soul of the sluggard desireth, and *hath* nothing : but the soul of the diligent shall be made fat.

Prov. xii. 24.

THE hand of the diligent shall bear rule : but the slothful shall be under tribute.

Matt. xii. 35 and 36.

A GOOD man, out of the good treasure of the heart, bringeth forth good things : and an evil man, out of the evil treasure, bringeth forth evil things.

But I say unto you, That every idle word that men shall speak, they shall give account thereof in the day of judgment.

PROPER USE OF TIME.

“Go to the ant, thou sluggard; consider her ways, and be wise.”
Prov. vi. 6.

I SEE the ant with busy toil
Her earthy cell prepare ;
And day by day her store of food
Lay by with watchful care.

I see her rising with the sun
Her labors to begin ;
While tiny helpmates crowd around,
Their share of spoil to win.

I would not waste the precious hours
Of youth by idle ways ;
But like the ant that youth employ,
And live, my God to praise.

Let industry be then my aim
In all my duties here ;
And through my life God's holy name
May I with love revere.

Eccles. xii. 1 to 7.

REMEMBER now thy Creator in the days of thy youth, while the evil days come not, nor the years draw nigh, when thou shalt say, I have no pleasure in them ;

While the sun, or the light, or the moon, or the stars, be not darkened, nor the clouds return after the rain :

In the day when the keepers of the house shall tremble, and the strong men shall bow themselves, and the grinders cease because they are few, and those that look out of the windows be darkened.

And the doors shall be shut in the streets, when the sound of the grinding is low, and he shall rise up at the voice of the bird, and all the daughters of music shall be brought low ;

Also *when* they shall be afraid of *that which is* high, and fears *shall be* in the way, and the almond tree shall flourish, and the grasshopper shall be a burden, and desire shall fail : because man goeth to his long home, and the mourners go about the streets :

Or ever the silver cord be loosed, or the golden bowl be broken, or the pitcher be broken at the fountain, or the wheel broken at the cistern.

Then shall the dust return to the earth as it was : and the spirit shall return unto God who gave it.

EARLY PIETY.

“Remember now thy Creator in the days of thy youth.” *Eccles.* xii. 1.

WHILE the bright hours of youth are thine,
And childhood's joys are round thee ;
While parents' arms thy form entwine,
And comforts still surround thee ;
Remember Him who crowns thy joy,
And gives thee bliss without alloy.

Ere the glad hopes of youth are gone,
Its brightest prospects shaded—
Ere the blush from thy cheek has flown,
To leave it pale and faded—
Remember Him who guards thy years,
And saves thy cup from bitter tears.

He will bend down a willing ear
To childhood's lowly prayer ;
Thy love, that fades and withers here,
He will gladly garner there.
Remember then that Father's call,
And give to Him thy heart—thy all.

Ps. xxvii. 1 to 8.

THE Lord *is* my light and my salvation ; whom shall I fear ? the LORD *is* the strength of my life ; of whom shall I be afraid ?

When the wicked, *even* mine enemies and my foes, came upon me to eat up my flesh, they stumbled and fell.

Though a host should encamp against me, my heart shall not fear : though war should rise against me, in this *will* I *be* confident.

One *thing* have I desired of the Lord, that will I seek after ; that I may dwell in the house of the Lord all the days of my life, to behold the beauty of the Lord, and to inquire in his temple.

For in the time of trouble he shall hide me in his pavilion : in the secret of his tabernacle shall he hide me ; he shall set me up upon a rock.

And now shall my head be lifted up above mine enemies round about me : therefore will I offer in his tabernacle sacrifices of joy ; I will sing, yea, I will sing praises unto the Lord.

Hear, O Lord, *when* I cry with my voice : have mercy also upon me, and answer me.

When thou saidst, Seek ye my face ; my heart said unto thee, Thy face, Lord, will I seek.

SELF DEDICATION.

“ My son, give me thine heart.” *Prov.* xxiii. 26.

MY God ! it is thy call,
And can I silent be ?
Can I resist the voice that pleads,
So earnestly with me ?

Shall I refuse to give
My heart's best love to thee ?
When ev'ry blessing I enjoy,
Thou hast bestow'd on me ?

Oh ! take me to thy arms,
And make me ever thine ;
And grant that to thy sacred will,
My heart may still incline.

Save me from ev'ry sin—
Wash me from ev'ry stain—
And from my Shepherd's safe embrace,
May I ne'er stray again.

Prov. iv. 1 to 11.

HEAR, ye children, the instruction of a father, and attend to know understanding.

For I give you good doctrine, forsake ye not my law.

For I was my father's son, tender and only *beloved* in the sight of my mother.

He taught me also, and said unto me, Let thy heart retain my words : keep my commandments, and live.

Get wisdom, get understanding : forget *it* not ; neither decline from the words of my mouth.

Forsake her not, and she shall preserve thee : love her, and she shall keep thee.

Wisdom *is* the principal thing ; *therefore* get wisdom : and with all thy getting get understanding.

Exalt her, and she shall promote thee : she shall bring thee to honor, when thou dost embrace her.

She shall give to thy head an ornament of grace : a crown of glory shall she deliver to thee.

Hear, O my son, and receive my saying ; and the years of thy life shall be many.

I have taught thee in the way of wisdom ; I have led thee in right paths.

PARENTAL INFLUENCE.

“My son, hear the instruction of thy father, and forsake not the law of thy mother.” *Prov. i. 8.*

WHEN from my duty I depart,
And wring with grief my father's heart,
Let his reproof my errors stay,
And lead me back to virtue's way ;
His kind instruction let me hear,
Nor deem his just rebuke severe.

When from my mother's gentle law
My heart inclines me to withdraw ;
Let me remember all her cares,
And think upon her anxious pray'rs ;
Her counsel let me ne'er forsake,
Nor cease her fond advice to take.

While thus I live, my God will bless
The earthly portion I possess ;
Will guide the flight of youthful years,
And save me from the sinner's fears.
His love will light me on the way
That leads to everlasting day.

John x. 11 to 16.

I AM the good shepherd : the good shepherd giveth his life for the sheep.

But he that is a hireling, and not the shepherd, whose own the sheep are not, seeth the wolf coming, and leaveth the sheep, and fleeth ; and the wolf catcheth them, and scattereth the sheep.

The hireling fleeth, because he is a hireling, and careth not for the sheep.

I am the good shepherd, and know my *sheep*, and am known of mine.

As the Father knoweth me, even so know I the Father : and I lay down my life for the sheep.

And other sheep I have, which are not of this fold : them also I must bring, and they shall hear my voice ; and there shall be one fold, *and* one shepherd.

John x. 27 to 29.

MY sheep hear my voice, and I know them, and they follow me :

And I give unto them eternal life ; and they shall never perish, neither shall any *man* pluck them out of my hand.

My Father, which gave *them* me, is greater than all ; and no *man* is able to pluck *them* out of my Father's hand.

THE GOOD SHEPHERD.

"Feed my lambs." *St. John* xxi. 15.

SAVIOUR, guardian of the fold,
See thy lambs in numbers come ;
Safe among thy flock enroll'd,
Guide them to their future home.

Many dangers crowd their way ;
Many snares their hearts deceive ;
When in error's path they stray,
From that path their souls retrieve.

Feed them with that better food,
Which thy hand alone can give ;
Wash them in thy precious blood,
And their early sins forgive.

Save them too from future ill—
Lead them to that blissful shore—
Where thy love awaits them still,
To be theirs for ever more.

Ps. viii. 1 to end.

O LORD our Lord, how excellent *is* thy name in all the earth ! who hast set thy glory above the heavens.

Out of the mouth of babes and sucklings hast thou ordained strength because of thine enemies, that thou mightest still the enemy and the avenger.

When I consider thy heavens, the work of thy fingers ; the moon and the stars, which thou hast ordained :

What is man, that thou art mindful of him ? and the son of man, that thou visitest him ?

For thou hast made him a little lower than the angels, and hast crowned him with glory and honor.

Thou madest him to have dominion over the works of thy hands : thou hast put all *things* under his feet :

All sheep and oxen, yea, and the beasts of the field ;

The fowl of the air, and the fish of the sea, *and whatsoever* passeth through the paths of the seas.

O Lord our Lord, how excellent *is* thy name in all the earth !

ADORATION OF GOD.

“O Lord, how manifold are thy works! in wisdom hast thou made them all : the earth is full of thy riches.” *Psalms* civ. 24.

LET me adore the great and glorious God
Who dwells above the blue and shining sky ;
My sight can never reach that blest abode,
Nor penetrate the mysteries on high.

He spoke—and worlds were form'd at his command—
Sun, moon, and earth arose 'mid empty space—
The arch of heaven by starlight brightness spann'd
Is but the footstool of his dwelling place.

He breath'd—and man came forth a living soul—
A being form'd to love and worship him ;
But, early casting off divine control,
Man soon became the willing slave of sin.

E'en then, he ceas'd not to exert his pow'r,
And from the chains of sin he set us free ;
Christ died to save us in *our* dying hour,
And rose again to give us victory.

Tow'rd's heaven then, let joyful strains ascend,
From hearts devoted to their Maker's praise ;
While saints above in heav'nly chorus blend,
And to his throne the grateful tribute raise.

Ps. lxxxvi. 1 to 10.

BOW down thine ear, O Lord, hear me : for I *am* poor and needy.

Preserve my soul : for I *am* holy : O thou my God, save thy servant that trusteth in thee.

Be merciful unto me, O Lord : for I cry unto thee daily.

Rejoice the soul of thy servant : for unto thee, O Lord, do I lift up my soul.

For thou, Lord, *art* good and ready to forgive ; and plenteous in mercy unto all them that call upon thee.

Give ear, O Lord, unto my prayer ; and attend to the voice of my supplications.

In the day of my trouble I will call upon thee : for thou wilt answer me.

Among the gods *there is* none like unto thee, O Lord ; neither *are there any works* like unto thy works.

All nations whom thou hast made shall come and worship before thee, O Lord ; and shall glorify thy name.

For thou *art* great, and doest wondrous things : thou *art* God alone.

Ps. xxv. 4 and 5.

SHOW me thy ways, O Lord ; teach me thy paths.

Lead me in thy truth, and teach me : for thou *art* the God of my salvation ; on thee do I wait all the day.

DIVINE AID.

“For I the Lord thy God will hold thy right hand, saying unto thee, Fear not; I will help thee.” *Is. xli. 13.*

FATHER! teach my lips to praise thee
For the mercies thou hast shown;
Let the love that seeks to save me,
Make my spirit all thy own.

Ev'ry thing I see around me
Thy almighty impress wears;
Each kind blessing that surrounds me,
To my heart thy love endears.

May thy grace to me revealing
Hidden faults I know not now;
Help to curb each wayward feeling—
Teach me at thy feet to bow.

Let not then my youth be wasting
In pursuit of idle glee;
Lest the hour of death be hast'ning,
Ere from sin I learn to flee.

Matt. xviii. 15. 21 and 22.

MOREOVER, if thy brother shall trespass against thee, go and tell him his fault between thee and him alone : if he shall hear thee, thou hast gained thy brother.

Then came Peter to him, and said, Lord, how oft shall my brother sin against me, and I forgive him? till seven times?

Jesus saith unto him, I say not unto thee, Until seven times; but, Until seventy times seven.

Luke xxiii. 33 and 34.

AND when they were come to the place which is called Calvary, there they crucified him, and the malefactors; one on the right hand, and the other on the left.

Then said Jesus, Father, forgive them : for they know not what they do.

Eph. iv. 31 and 32.

LET all bitterness, and wrath, and anger, and clamor, and evil-speaking, be put away from you, with all malice :

And be ye kind one to another, tender-hearted, forgiving one another, even as God for Christ's sake hath forgiven you.

FORGIVENESS.

"If ye forgive not men their trespasses, neither will your Father forgive your trespasses." *Matt. vi. 15.*

WHEN upon my bended knee,
Thy pardon I implore;
Let the prayer address'd to thee,
Plead also for mine enemy,
And christian love restore.

Let not th' injury remain
To rankle in my breast;
If those I love have giv'n me pain,
Let me all angry thoughts restrain,
And leave to thee the rest.

Thus while early youth is mine,
May I thy precepts love;
And oh! do thou my heart incline,
To seek the aid and grace divine,
Imparted from above.

Job v. 17 and 18.

BEHOLD, happy *is* the man whom God correcteth : therefore despise not thou the chastening of the Almighty.

For he maketh sore, and bindeth up : he woundeth, and his hands make whole.

Lam. iii. 32 and 33.

BUT though he cause grief, yet will he have compassion according to the multitude of his mercies.

For he doth not afflict willingly, nor grieve the children of men.

Ps. cxl. 12.

I KNOW that the Lord will maintain the cause of the afflicted, *and* the right of the poor.

Ps. xxxiv. 19.

MANY *are* the afflictions of the righteous : but the Lord delivereth him out of them all.

II Cor. iv. 17 and 18.

OUR light affliction, which is but for a moment, worketh for us a far more exceeding *and* eternal weight of glory ;

While we look not at the things which are seen, but at the things which are not seen : for the things which are seen *are* temporal ; but the things which are not seen *are* eternal.

AFFLICTION.

"God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble."

Psalm xlv. 1.

WHEN sorrow rends my aching heart,
And fills my eye with tears ;
To thee, oh ! Father, I repair,
With all my anxious fears.

To thee I go when death dissolves
The ties of kindred love ;
A friend to find in Him, who took
The lost one—now above.

In ev'ry grief that bears me down,
I seek thy tender care ;
My surest help is ever found
In humble, earnest pray'r.

Oh ! Father, lead me to thy feet
In ev'ry joy or ill ;
And let me cheerfully resign
My wishes to thy will.

Ps. xxxix. 4 and 5.

LORD, make me to know mine end, and the measure of my days, what it *is* ; *that* I may know how frail I *am*.

Behold, thou hast made my days *as* a handbreadth ; and mine age *is* as nothing before thee : verily every man at his best state *is* altogether vanity.

Luke xii. 16 to 21.

AND he (Jesus) spake a parable unto them, saying, The ground of a certain rich man brought forth plentifully :

And he thought within himself, saying, What shall I do, because I have no room where to bestow my fruits ?

And he said, This will I do : I will pull down my barns, and build greater ; and there will I bestow all my fruits and my goods.

And I will say to my soul, Soul, thou hast much goods laid up for many years ; take thine ease, eat, drink, *and* be merry.

But God said unto him, *Thou* fool, this night thy soul shall be required of thee : then whose shall those things be which thou hast provided ?

So *is* he that layeth up treasure for himself, and is not rich towards God.

UNCERTAINTY OF LIFE.

“So teach us to number our days, that we may apply our hearts unto wisdom.” *Psalm xc. 12.*

SOUL, can'st thou tell me when the stroke of death
Shall lay this body in its earthy bed ?
Can'st tell me when the spirit's fleeting breath
Shall leave me, to be number'd with the dead ?

When will the summons from Jehovah come
That bids me on my final journey go ?
Alas ! the hour that calls me to my home,
None but the Saviour and the Spirit know.

The glowing hue of health may fade away,
And this young form be wrapp'd in death's embrace ;

No pray'rs—no tears are able to delay
The spirit's passage to its resting place.

Years may pass by—and I may still be spar'd
To serve my God with fervent, humble love ;
But when I'm call'd, oh ! may I be prepar'd
To enter the blest realms of bliss above.

Ps. xxiii.

THE Lord *is* my shepherd ; I shall not want.

He maketh me to lie down in green pastures : he leadeth me beside the still waters.

He restoreth my soul : he leadeth me in the paths of righteousness for his name's sake.

Yea, though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil : for thou *art* with me ; thy rod and thy staff they comfort me.

Thou preparest a table before me in the presence of mine enemies : thou anointest my head with oil ; my cup runneth over.

Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life : and I will dwell in the house of the Lord for ever.

Ps. xxxi. 23 and 24.

O LOVE the Lord, all ye his saints : for the Lord preserveth the faithful, and plentifully rewardeth the proud doer.

Be of good courage, and he shall strengthen your heart, all ye that hope in the Lord.

DAILY PRESERVATION.

“The Lord is my Shepherd; I shall not want. He maketh me to lie down in green pastures: he leadeth me beside the still waters.” *Psalm xxiii.* 1 and 2.

I KNOW the hand which day by day
With blessings strews my peaceful way;
Which leads me safe through danger's wave,
And crowns with joy the life he gave.
To him my feeble voice I'd raise,
And Father, Son, and Spirit praise.

Each passing hour I feel his care,
While all his bounteous gifts I share;
My food and raiment, health and friends,
These precious gifts he kindly sends.
To him my grateful voice I'd raise,
And Father, Son, and Spirit praise.

In life's dark hours—in sorrow's gloom—
His Spirit will my soul illumine;
Upon my path its brightness throw,
And everlasting light bestow;
To him my youthful voice I'd raise,
And Father, Son, and Spirit praise.

Heb. iv. 12.

THE word of God *is* quick, and powerful, and sharper than any two-edged sword, piercing even to the dividing asunder of soul and spirit, and of the joints and marrow, and *is* a discerner of the thoughts and intents of the heart.

Rom. xv. 4.

WHATSOEVER things were written aforetime, were written for our learning, that we through patience and comfort of the scriptures might have hope.

II Tim. iii. 14. to 17.

CONTINUE thou in the things which thou hast learned and hast been assured of, knowing of whom thou hast learned *them* ;

And that from a child thou hast known the holy scriptures, which are able to make thee wise unto salvation through faith which is in Christ Jesus.

All scripture *is* given by inspiration of God, and *is* profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness :

That the man of God may be perfect, thoroughly furnished unto all good works.

THE BIBLE.

"Thy word is a lamp unto my feet, and a light unto my path."

Psalm cxix. 105.

THOU holy book ! upon each sacred page
I see the impress of a hand divine ;
Address'd to youth, to manhood, and to age,
Oh ! may I make thy precious precepts mine.

The gift of God—by which to shape our way
When error lures our yielding feet aside ;
Thy counsels can reclaim me when I stray,
And in the path of life my footsteps guide.

Thou show'st me too how man has left his God
To worship earthly idols which decay ;
And how in love he sends his chast'ning rod
To wean us from the hopes on which we stay.

Thou lead'st me to th' atoning sacrifice,
Which nought but heav'nly mercy could have
plann'd ;
And as upon the cross I bend my eyes,
It points the pathway to a better land.

Close to my heart may God's blest gift remain,
And with my actions may its precepts blend ;
Until my soul shall future bliss attain,
And feel the happiness that knows no end.

Is. lii. 7.

HOW beautiful upon the mountains are the feet of him that bringeth good tidings, that publisheth peace ; that bringeth good tidings of good, that publisheth salvation ; that saith unto Zion, Thy God reigneth !

Luke ii. 4. 8 to 14.

AND Joseph also went up from Galilee, out of the city of Nazareth, into Judea, unto the city of David, which is called Bethlehem, (because he was of the house and lineage of David.)

And there were in the same country shepherds abiding in the field, keeping watch over their flock by night.

And lo, the angel of the Lord came upon them, and the glory of the Lord shone round about them ; and they were sore afraid.

And the angel said unto them, Fear not : for behold, I bring you good tidings of great joy, which shall be to all people.

For unto you is born this day, in the city of David a Saviour, which is Christ the Lord.

And this *shall be* a sign unto you ; Ye shall find the babe wrapped in swaddling-clothes, lying in a manger.

And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host praising God, and saying,
Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace, good will toward men.

CHRISTMAS.

“Unto you is born this day, in the city of David, a Saviour,
which is Christ the Lord.” *Luke ii. 11.*

HEAR the glad sounds from earth ascend,
While angels in the chorus blend ;
“The Son has left his throne in heav’n,
The promis’d Saviour now is giv’n.”

Again the blending voices rise
In joyful chorus to the skies ;
“He comes to break the chains of sin,
And wand’ring souls to seek and win.”

Another and a louder strain,
From earth and heav’n is heard again ;
“He comes the sinner’s soul to save,
And give him vict’ry o’er the grave.”

Once more th’ exulting hymn ascends,
While grateful love its tribute lends ;
To God on high all glory be,
Good-will, O earth, to man and thee !

Eccles. iii. 20.

ALL go unto one place ; all are of the dust, and all turn to dust again.

Job xix. 23 to 27.

O THAT my words were now written ! O that they were printed in a book !

That they were graven with an iron pen and lead in the rock for ever !

For I know *that* my Redeemer liveth, and *that* he shall stand at the latter *day* upon the earth :

And *though* after my skin *worms* destroy this *body*, yet in my flesh shall I see God :

Whom I shall see for myself, and mine eyes shall behold, and not another.

Job xiv. 1 and 2.

MAN *that is* born of a woman *is* of few days, and full of trouble.

He cometh forth like a flower, and is cut down : he fleeth also as a shadow, and continueth not.

John xi. 25 and 26.

JESUS said, I am the resurrection, and the life : he that believeth in me, though he were dead, yet shall he live :

And whosoever liveth, and believeth in me, shall never die.

FUNERAL HYMN.

"Blessed are the dead which die in the Lord." *Rev. xiv. 13.*

WE bear the body to its long, last home,
Unconscious of its cold and earthy bed;
The soul to its final account hath gone—
The spirit to another world hath fled.

Oh! pause upon the brink of this deep grave,
While slowly down, that coffin's weight descends;
What now to him, is all this earth e'er gave,
Or what the charm that worldly pleasure lends.

But a bright ray darts o'er the sadden'd soul—
A christian's love once glow'd within this clay;
A christian's hope had pointed to the goal,
While yet on earth he trod his anxious way.

A Saviour's arms that parted soul receive—
A Father's home that weary pilgrim gains—
O'er this frail clay we cannot—should not grieve,
We joy for him—that joy our tears restrains.

Deut. xxviii. 1 to 8.

Blessings promised on Obedience.

AND it shall come to pass, if thou shalt hearken diligently unto the voice of the Lord thy God, to observe *and* to do all his commandments which I command thee this day : that the Lord thy God will set thee on high above all nations of the earth :

And all these blessings shall come on thee, and overtake thee, if thou shalt hearken unto the voice of the Lord thy God.

Blessed *shalt* thou *be* in the city, and blessed *shalt* thou *be* in the field.

Blessed *shall be* thy basket and thy store.

Blessed *shalt* thou *be* when thou comest in, and blessed *shalt* thou *be* when thou goest out.

The Lord shall cause thine enemies that rise up against thee to be smitten before thy face : they shall come out against thee one way, and flee before thee seven ways.

The Lord shall command the blessing upon thee in thy store-houses, and in all that thou settest thy hand unto ; and he shall bless thee in the land which the Lord thy God giveth thee.

OBEDIENCE.

"Obey my voice, and I will be your God," *Jer. vii. 23.*

FATHER! I strive to seek
The strait and narrow way;
I know thou wilt not fail to hear,
When I for guidance pray.

Oh! help me to obey
Thy wise and gracious will;
Teach this young heart thy love to prize,
And holy fear instil.

Oh! wean me from the world,
That spreads around its snares,
Let not my soul be tempted by
Th' alluring smile it wears.

Teach me to bear the cross,
Thou dost in mercy send:
'T will bring me to my Saviour's arms,
And strength unearthly lend.

That Saviour will support
My soul with heav'nly pow'r;
He bore a heavier cross than mine—
He felt a dying hour.

Rev. vii. 9 and 10, and 13 to 17.

AFTER this I beheld, and lo, a great multitude, which no man could number, of all nations, and kindreds, and people, and tongues, stood before the throne, and before the Lamb, clothed with white robes and palms in their hands;

And cried with a loud voice, saying, Salvation to our God which sitteth upon the throne, and unto the Lamb.

And one of the elders answered, saying unto me, What are these which are arrayed in white robes? and whence came they?

And I said unto him, Sir, thou knowest. And he said to me, These are they which came out of great tribulation, and have washed their robes, and made them white in the blood of the Lamb.

Therefore are they before the throne of God, and serve him day and night in his temple: and he that sitteth on the throne shall dwell among them.

They shall hunger no more, neither thirst any more; neither shall the sun light on them, nor any heat.

For the Lamb which is in the midst of the throne shall feed them, and shall lead them unto living fountains of waters; and God shall wipe away all tears from their eyes.

THE JOYS OF HEAVEN.

²² But ye are come unto Mount Zion, and unto the city of the living God, the heavenly Jerusalem, and to an innumerable company of angels. *Heb. xii. 22.*

WE know not now what we shall be
When we have reach'd our place of rest ;
But our Redeemer we shall see
Within those mansions of the blest ;
Strive then, my soul, to reach that home—
Jesus thy Saviour bids thee come.

There, saints and angels ever dwell
Amid celestial light and joy ;
Unnumber'd voices loudly swell,
While songs of praise their tongues employ ;
Seek then, my soul, that bliss to win,
And here thy song of praise begin.

We shall be ever happy there,
And feel no sickness, grief, or pain :
The joys of angels we shall share,
Nor know the ills of earth again.
Thine, Father, may I strive to be,
And let me seek my strength in thee.

Ps. cxli. 1 and 2.

LORD, I cry unto thee : make haste unto me ; give ear unto my voice, when I cry unto thee.

Let my prayer be set forth before thee *as* incense ; and the lifting up of my hands *as* the evening sacrifice.

Ps. v. 3.

MY voice shalt thou hear in the morning, O Lord ; in the morning will I direct *my prayer* unto thee, and will look up.

Is. lxxv. 24.

AND it shall come to pass, that before they call, I will answer ; and while they are yet speaking, I will hear.

Matt.vi. 5 and 6.

AND when thou prayest, thou shalt not be as the hypocrites *are* : for they love to pray standing in the synagogues, and in the corners of the streets, that they may be seen of men. Verily, I say unto you, They have their reward.

But thou, when thou prayest, enter into thy closet, and when thou hast shut thy door, pray to thy Father which is in secret ; and thy Father, which seeth in secret, shall reward thee openly.

DAILY PRAYER.

"Evening, and morning, and at noon, will I pray, and cry aloud;
and he shall hear my voice." *Psalms* lv. 17.

SAVIOUR, let my humble prayer
To thy throne in heav'n ascend;
All my youthful faults regretting,
Lowly on my knees I bend.

Saviour, let not wicked anger
Rule a breast so young as mine;
Oh! let gentle peace descending,
Make my heart entirely thine.

Saviour, let me ask thy blessing
Ev'ry morning when I rise;
And as each day's sun 's declining,
Pray to thee beyond the skies.

Saviour, pardon all my errors,
Lead my youthful heart to thee;
And upon thy care depending,
To thy shelt'ring arms I flee.

Ps. lxxxiv. 1 to 4 and 7.

HOW amiable *are* thy tabernacles, O Lord of hosts !

My soul longeth, yea, even fainteth for the courts of the Lord : my heart and my flesh crieth out for the living God.

Yea, the sparrow hath found a house, and the swallow a nest for herself, where she may lay her young, *even* thine altars, O Lord of hosts, my King, and my God.

Blessed *are* they that dwell in thy house : they will be still praising thee.

They go from strength to strength, *every one of them* in Zion appeareth before God.

Ps. lxxxiv. 10 to 12.

FOR a day in thy courts *is* better than a thousand. I had rather be a door-keeper in the house of my God, than to dwell in the tents of wickedness.

For the Lord God *is* a sun and shield : the Lord will give grace and glory ; no good *thing* will he withhold from them that walk uprightly.

O Lord of hosts, blessed *is* the man that trusteth in thee.

Ps. lxv. 4.

BLESSED *is the man whom* thou choosest, and causest to approach *unto thee*, that he may dwell in thy courts : we shall be satisfied with the goodness of thy house, *even* of thy holy temple.

SABBATH EVENING.

“ I have no greater joy than to hear that my children walk in truth.” 3 *John* 4.

THE sun has sunk beneath the sky,
And stars are lighted up on high ;
Another Sabbath-day has past,
Perhaps on earth to be my last.

And if before a week has flown
God should recall me as his own ;
Oh ! am I now prepar'd to die,
And meet my Saviour in the sky ?

Is there no wicked deed or word,
Which God in heav'n has seen or heard ;
And which will make me fear to meet
My Saviour on his judgment seat ?

Have I to others gentle been,
And check'd the angry thought within ?
Or have I yielded to my pride,
And hop'd from God that sin to hide ?

Oh ! let me learn to love him here,
That when I at his bar appear,
My many sins may be forgiv'n
And I may dwell with him in heav'n.

Heb. xii. 5 to 11.

MY son, despise not thou the chastening of the Lord, nor faint when thou art rebuked of him :

For whom the Lord loveth he chasteneth, and scourgeth every son whom he receiveth.

If ye endure chastening, God dealeth with you as with sons : for what son is he whom the father chasteneth not ?

But if ye be without chastisement, whereof all are partakers, then are ye bastards, and not sons.

Furthermore, we have had fathers of our flesh which corrected *us*, and we gave *them* reverence : shall we not much rather be in subjection unto the Father of spirits, and live ?

For they verily for a few days chastened *us* after their own pleasure ; but he for *our* profit, that *we* might be partakers of his holiness.

Now no chastening for the present seemeth to be joyous, but grievous : nevertheless, afterward it yieldeth the peaceable fruit of righteousness unto them which are exercised thereby.

Job i. 21.

NAKED came I out of my mother's womb, and naked shall I return thither : The Lord gave, and the Lord hath taken away ; blessed be the name of the Lord.

RESIGNATION.

"Father! if thou be willing, remove this cup from me; nevertheless, not my will, but thine, be done." *Luke xxii. 42.*

TEACH me, oh! God, my wishes to resign,
When thou recall'st the gifts thou dost bestow;
It ill becomes thy creatures to repine,
When all they have, to thee alone they owe.

The health that now invigorates this frame,
May soon give place to sickness' painful sway;
From thee alone the precious blessing came,
'Twas thine to give—'tis thine to take away.

Trials which heretofore have been withheld,
May try my soul with anguish now unknown;
Thy chast'ning rod will future comfort yield,
And give in joy, what I in tears have sown.

Fearing no ill—dreading no earthly loss—
The christian's soul from sinful murm'ring free;
May cast its burthen on the Saviour's cross,
And without tears resign its will to thee.

1 Tim. i. 15.

THIS *is* a faithful saying, and worthy of all acceptation, that Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners ; of whom I am chief.

John iii. 16 and 17.

GOD so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him, should not perish, but have everlasting life.

For God sent not his Son into the world to condemn the world, but that the world through him might be saved.

John iv. 13 and 14.

WHOSOEVER drinketh of this water, shall thirst again :

But whosoever drinketh of the water that I shall give him, shall never thirst ; but the water that I shall give him, shall be in him a well of water springing up into everlasting life.

Matt. xviii. 11.

THE Son of man is come to save that which was lost.

Heb. vii. 25.

WHEREFORE he is able also to save them to the uttermost that come unto God by him, seeing he ever liveth to make intercession for them.

SALVATION.

“There is none other name under heaven given among men,
whereby we must be saved.” *Acts iv. 12.*

JESUS! source of my salvation,
Lead me to that healing spring ;
Open'd freely to each nation,
Flowing yet, relief to bring.

Guide, oh ! guide me to that fountain
Streaming still, a hallow'd flood ;
From thy throne on Zion's mountain,
View the sinner through thy blood.

Lost and ruin'd—all degraded—
Man may at thy footstool bow ;
Love divine was never shaded,
Let me try its mercy now.

If a heart to thee surrender'd,
Proves its penitence sincere ;
Thou'lt forgive though it had wander'd,
And revoke its doom severe.

Thine the suff'ring—thine the power
To release the soul from sin ;
Break thou my fetters from this hour,
Help me future bliss to win.

Eph. vi. 1 to 3.

CHILDREN, obey your parents in the Lord : for this is right.

Honor thy father and mother, (which is the first commandment with promise,)

That it may be well with thee, and thou mayest live long on the earth.

Prov. x. 1.

A WISE son maketh a glad father : but a foolish son *is* the heaviness of his mother.

Prov. xv. 5.

A FOOL despiseth his father's instruction : but he that regardeth reproof is prudent.

Prov. vi. 20 to 23.

MY son, keep thy father's commandment, and forsake not the law of thy mother :

Bind them continually upon thy heart, *and* tie them about thy neck.

When thou goest, it shall lead thee ; when thou sleepest, it shall keep thee ; and *when* thou awakest, it shall talk with thee.

For the commandment *is* a lamp ; and the law *is* light ; and reproofs of instruction *are* the way of life.

FILIAL DUTY.

“Honor thy father and thy mother.” *Exodus* xx. 12.

GOD loves the child who early fears
To give fond parents pain,
By angry words or fretful tears,
When they some wish restrain.

For children surely cannot know
What prudence would condemn ;
And parents gladly will bestow,
What is the best for them.

And let not disobedience wound
The tender hearts of those
Who nurs'd your infancy, and found
A balm for all your woes.

They rock'd your cradle—but the grave
May soon their forms contain ;
Then you will wish, and yearn, and crave,
Their love to know again.

Ps. li. 17.

THE sacrifices of God *are* a broken spirit: a broken and a contrite heart, O God, thou wilt not despise.

Ps. xxxiv. 18.

THE Lord *is* nigh unto them that are of a broken heart; and saveth such as be of a contrite spirit.

Luke xviii. 9 to 14.

AND he (Jesus) spake this parable unto certain which trusted in themselves that they were righteous, and despised others:

Two men went up into the temple to pray; the one a Pharisee, and the other a publican.

The Pharisee stood and prayed thus with himself, God, I thank thee, that I am not as other men *are*, extortioners, unjust, adulterers, or even as this publican.

I fast twice in the week, I give tithes of all that I possess.

And the publican, standing afar off, would not lift up so much as *his* eyes unto heaven, but smote upon his breast, saying, God be merciful to me a sinner.

I tell you, this man went down to his house justified *rather* than the other: for every one that exalteth himself shall be abased; and he that humbleth himself shall be exalted.

HUMILITY.

“Humble yourselves in the sight of the Lord, and he shall lift you up.” *James iv. 10.*

HELP me, oh ! Father, to subdue
My heart's inherent pride ;
My secret sins hold up to view—
Repentance let me now renew—
Nor strive my guilt to hide.

Thou know'st my wand'rings—Thou alone
This erring heart canst see ;
Oh ! may the mercies I have known,
Make my young spirit all thine own,
And lead my steps to thee.

Thou canst repress the rising pride
That 'gainst thee would rebel ;
The *contrite* sinner thou wilt guide,
And turn the shafts of sin aside,
And Satan's temptings quell.

Unworthy of thy tender care
I often stray from thee ;
Oh ! may I humbly seek in pray'r
Thy heavenly regard to share,
And strive from sin to flee.

Ps. lxxv. 1 and 2.

PRAISE waiteth for thee, O God, in Zion : and unto thee shall the vow be performed.

O thou that hearest prayer, unto thee shall all flesh come.

Ps. lxxv. 8 to 13.

THEY also that dwell in the uttermost parts are afraid at thy tokens : thou makest the out-goings of the morning and evening to rejoice.

Thou visitest the earth, and waterest it : thou greatly enrichest it with the river of God, *which* is full of water : thou preparest them corn, when thou hast so provided for it.

Thou waterest the ridges thereof abundantly : thou settlest the furrows thereof : thou makest it soft with showers : thou blessest the springing thereof.

Thou crownest the year with thy goodness ; and thy paths drop fatness.

They drop *upon* the pastures of the wilderness : and the little hills rejoice on every side.

The pastures are clothed with flocks ; the valleys also are covered over with corn ; they shout for joy, they also sing.

THE SEASONS.

"Nevertheless he left not himself without witness, in that he did good, and gave us rain from heaven, and fruitful seasons, filling our hearts with food and gladness." *Acts xiv. 17.*

IN Spring, behold the tender bud
Just peeping from the stem ;
While tiny leaflets cloth'd in green,
Compose its diadem.

In Summer, see the op'ning flow'r
Its brilliant tints display ;
It gives fair promise of the fruit,
That will our toil repay.

In Autumn, see the plenteous store
We gather from the field ;
No hand but that of God could cause
The earth such fruit to yield.

But Winter comes—'tis that the ground
May 'neath the snow repose ;
To gain fresh fruitfulness and strength,
Ere Spring's next blossom blows.

In ev'ry season let me trace
The goodness all divine,
That watches o'er the seed I plant,
And makes the increase mine.

Phil. ii. 5 to 11.

LET this mind be in you, which was also in Christ Jesus :

Who, being in the form of God, thought it not robbery to be equal with God :

But made himself of no reputation, and took upon him the form of a servant, and was made in the likeness of men ;

And being found in fashion as a man, he humbled himself, and became obedient unto death, even the death of the cross.

Wherefore God also hath highly exalted him, and given him a name which is above every name :

That at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, of *things* in heaven, and *things* in earth, and *things* under the earth ;

And *that* every tongue should confess that Jesus Christ *is* Lord, to the glory of God the Father.

Rev. v. 12 and 13.

WORTHY is the Lamb that was slain to receive power, and riches, and wisdom, and strength, and honor, and glory, and blessing.

And every creature which is in heaven, and on the earth, and under the earth, and such as are in the sea, and all that are in them, heard I saying, Blessing, and honour, and glory, and power, *be* unto him that sitteth upon the throne, and unto the Lamb, for ever and ever.

THE CROSS.

“God forbid that I should glory, save in the cross of our Lord Jesus Christ.” *Gal. vi. 14.*

THE cross of Christ, oh ! pilgrim, view,
’T will cheer thee on thy weary road ;
Its friendly shade will strength renew—
Its shelter prove a blest abode.

The cross of Christ, oh ! mortal, see,
It points a home beyond the grave ;
A Saviour died upon that tree,
That Saviour lives thy soul to save.

The cross of Christ, oh ! sinner, seek,
And lay thy heavy burthen there ;
No pray’rs, no tears, can ever speak
The gratitude thy heart should share.

The cross of Christ, oh ! christian, prize—
It stands between thy Judge and thee ;
A pledg’d memorial in his eyes,
An ark of safety still to be.

Matt. v. 6.

BLESSED *are* they which do hunger and thirst after righteousness : for they shall be filled.

Ps. xxxvii. 23 to 29.

THE steps of a *good* man are ordered by the Lord : and he delighteth in his way.

Though he fall, he shall not be utterly cast down : for the Lord upholdeth *him with* his hand.

I have been young, and *now* am old ; yet have I not seen the righteous forsaken, nor his seed begging bread.

He is ever merciful and lendeth ; and his seed *is* blessed.

Depart from evil, and do good ; and dwell for evermore.

For the Lord loveth judgment, and forsaketh not his saints ; they are preserved for ever : but the seed of the wicked shall be cut off.

The righteous shall inherit the land, and dwell therein for ever.

Ps. xxxvii. 6.

AND he shall bring forth thy righteousness as the light, and thy judgment as the noon-day.

Ps. xxxvii. 9.

FOR evil doers shall be cut off : but those that wait upon the Lord, they shall inherit the earth.

HOLINESS.

“Follow peace with all men, and holiness, without which no man shall see the Lord.” *Heb. xii. 14.*

THOU great Jehovah! in whose sight
The hue of heaven is not pure;
Illume my soul with wisdom's light,
And teach me virtue to secure.
With tears to thee I humbly pray,
Oh! wash my guiltiness away.

My feeble efforts can but fail,
Unless thy grace assistance give;
Almighty power can prevail,
And bid the contrite sinner live.
That grace I crave—that pow'r implore—
Oh! make me thine for evermore.

Though young in years I know thy will,
And wish the paths of sin to shun;
The stream of grace is flowing still—
Its precious blessings may be won.
To thee, oh! God, I humbly pray,
Wash thou my guiltiness away.

Luke xii. 22 to 31.

AND he (Jesus) said unto his disciples, Therefore I say unto you, take no thought for your life, what ye shall eat; neither for the body, what ye shall put on.

The life is more than meat, and the body *is more* than raiment.

Consider the ravens: for they neither sow nor reap: which neither have store-house nor barn; and God feedeth them. How much more are ye better than the fowls?

And which of you with taking thought can add to his stature one cubit?

If ye then be not able to do that thing which is least, why take ye thought for the rest?

Consider the lilies how they grow. They toil not, they spin not; and yet I say unto you, that Solomon in all his glory was not arrayed like one of these.

If then God so clothe the grass, which is to-day in the field, and to-morrow is cast into the oven; how much more *will he clothe* you, O ye of little faith?

And seek not ye what ye shall eat, or what ye shall drink, neither be ye of doubtful mind.

For all these things do the nations of the world seek after: and your Father knoweth that ye have need of these things.

But rather seek ye the kingdom of God, and all these things shall be added unto you.

TRUST IN GOD.

“Cast thy burthen upon the Lord, and he shall sustain thee.”

Psalm lv. 22.

OH! let me trust in God,
And fear no earthly ill;
Convinc'd that he will shelter those
Who strive to do his will.

The lily of the field
In gorgeous robe I see;
The God who ting'd its glowing hue,
Will also care for me.

The sparrow to its home
In other climes can flee;
The God who guides it on the wing,
That God will care for me.

His pow'r divine, I trace
In each created thing;
The blade of grass—the tow'ring oak
By him are made to spring.

Thus far throughout my life,
I've known his guardian care;
Oh! may I still his goodness trust,
And his protection share.

Is. i. 16 to 18.

WASH you, make you clean : put away the evil of your doings from before mine eyes ; cease to do evil ;

Learn to do well ; seek judgment, relieve the oppressed, judge the fatherless, plead for the widow.

Come now, and let us reason together, saith the Lord : though your sins be as scarlet, they shall be as white as snow ; though they be red like crimson, they shall be as wool.

Is. xliii. 25.

I, *EVEN* I, *am* he that blotteth out thy transgression for mine own sake, and will not remember thy sins.

Is. xliv. 22.

I HAVE blotted out, as a thick cloud, thy transgressions, and as a cloud, thy sins : return unto me ; for I have redeemed thee.

I John i. 7 to 9.

IF we walk in the light, as he is in the light, we have fellowship one with another, and the blood of Jesus Christ his Son cleanseth us from all sin.

If we say that we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us.

If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us *our* sins, and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

PARDON.

“Let the wicked forsake his way, and the unrighteous man his thoughts : and let him return unto the Lord, and he will have mercy upon him ; and to our God, for he will abundantly pardon .
Is. lv. 7.

REMEMBER not, oh ! God, the sins of early years,
Nor mark the guilt that clings to this frail form
of clay ;
My youthful errors have been mourn'd with bitter
tears,
Yet tears of blood, alas, can ne'er wash sin away.

Another's intercession can with thee prevail—
Another's sacrifice can for my sins atone—
There is a fountain open'd that can never fail,
Its living waters cleanse the heart they flow upon.

Yes ! Father, here I plead, a Saviour's thorny
crown—
A Saviour's heavy cross—a Saviour's cruel rod—
For me, those mortal suff'rings bore his spirit down,
For me, he fac'd the wrath of an offended God.

Beneath that blood-stain'd cross, my refuge I have
found ;
No mourning pilgrim to its shade e'er vainly came ;
A blest Redeemer's arms my timid soul surround,
Thou, Father, wilt forgive, when I that shelter
claim.

Ps. xlv. 1 to 3.

GOD *is* our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble.

Therefore will not we fear, though the earth be removed, and though the mountains be carried into the midst of the sea ;

Though the waters thereof roar *and* be troubled, *though* the mountains shake with the swelling thereof.

Ps. lxii. 7 and 8.

IN God *is* my salvation and my glory : the rock of my strength, *and* my refuge, *is* in God.

Trust in him at all times ; ye people, pour out your heart before him : God *is* a refuge for us.

John xv. 13 to 16.

GREATER love hath no man than this, that a man lay down his life for his friends.

Ye are my friends, if ye do whatsoever I command you.

Henceforth I call you not servants ; for the servant knoweth not what his lord doeth : but I have called you friends ; for all things that I have heard of my Father, I have made known unto you.

THE BETTER FRIEND.

"There is a friend that sticketh closer than a brother."

Prov. xviii. 24.

WHERE shall I seek a steadfast friend,
When earthly cares my spirit grieve ?
When sorrows with my comforts blend,
And hope allures but to deceive ?

A father's kindness oft will cheer
The gloom of dark dejection's hour ;
A mother's love is doubly dear,
When clouds upon our pathway low'r.

A youthful friend our lot may share,
Give smile for smile, and tear for tear ;
Yet buds that early friendships bear,
May blossom, but to wither here.

Ay, time or change may blight the love,
To which in youth we fondly cling ;
When earth deceives, we look above,
And seek the peace, *that* hope can bring.

A better friend is waiting there,
To soothe our griefs, and cheer our way ;
He never slights the suppliant's pray'r—
His friendship never knows decay.

Is. liii. 3 to 9.

HE (Christ) is despised and rejected of men ; a man of sorrows, and acquainted with grief : and we hid as it were *our* faces from him ; he was despised, and we esteemed him not.

Surely he hath borne our griefs, and carried our sorrows : yet we did esteem him stricken, smitten of God, and afflicted.

But he *was* wounded for our transgressions, *he was* bruised for our iniquities ; the chastisement of our peace *was* upon him ; and with his stripes we are healed.

All we like sheep have gone astray ; we have turned every one to his own way ; and the Lord hath laid on him the iniquity of us all.

He was oppressed, and he was afflicted, yet he opened not his mouth ; he is brought as a lamb to the slaughter, and as a sheep before her shearers is dumb, so he opened not his mouth.

He was taken from prison and from judgment : and who shall declare his generation ? for he was cut off out of the land of the living : for the transgression of my people was he stricken.

And he made his grave with the wicked, and with the rich in his death ; because he had done no violence, neither *was any* deceit in his mouth.

THE SUFFERINGS OF CHRIST.

"A man of sorrows, and acquainted with grief." *Is. liii. 3.*

MY Saviour, thou hast felt
Th' extreme of earthly wo ;
From Bethlehem's manger to the grave,
Thou didst no comforts know.

The bird can find a home,
And weave its downy bed ;
The Son of man, he knew not where
To lay his weary head.

They plac'd a crown of thorns
Upon that sacred brow ;
They knelt to thee in mockery,
Nor fear'd in scorn to bow.

A heavy cross was thine,
My Saviour, and my God ;
No mortal foot could tread the path
Which love divine hath trod.

Oh! let thy suff'rings melt
This stony heart of mine ;
Teach me repentance at thy cross,
And make my spirit thine.

Matt. ii. 3 to 10.

WHEN Herod the king had heard *these things*, he was troubled, and all Jerusalem with him.

And when he had gathered all the chief priests and scribes of the people together, he demanded of them where Christ should be born.

And they said unto him, In Bethlehem of Judea : for thus it is written by the prophet,

And thou Bethlehem, *in* the land of Juda, art not the least among the princes of Juda : for out of thee shall come a Governor, that shall rule my people Israel.

Then Herod, when he had privily called the wise men, inquired of them diligently what time the star appeared.

And he sent them to Bethlehem, and said, Go, and search diligently for the young child : and when ye have found *him*, bring me word again, that I may come and worship him also.

When they had heard the king, they departed ; and lo, the star, which they saw in the east, went before them, till it came and stood over where the young child was.

When they saw the star, they rejoiced with exceeding great joy.

Rev. xxii. 16.

IAM am the root and the offspring of David, *and* the bright and morning star.

THE STAR OF BETHLEHEM.

“And the Gentiles shall come to thy light, and kings to the brightness of thy rising.” *Is. lx. 3.*

THERE is a Star whose glowing light
Shines fairer than the eastern gem ;
Whose dazzling rays are always bright—
It is the Star of Bethlehem.

In highest heav’n it beams serene
On rich and poor—alike for them ;
The weary pilgrim hails the gleam
Of that fair Star of Bethlehem.

It rose upon a darken’d scene,
And shed the light of mystic gem,
On ev’ry eye that met the beam
Of that bright Star of Bethlehem.

’T is shining still for all who gaze,
And wish the waves of sin to stem ;
It lights the path of him who strays—
That guiding Star of Bethlehem.

It points to heav’n—it shows a crown
More bright than kingly diadem ;
’T will guide thee safe life’s current down
That hallow’d Star of Bethlehem.

Mark xii. 41 to 44.

AND Jesus sat over against the treasury, and beheld how the people cast money into the treasury : and many that were rich cast in much.

And there came a certain poor widow, and she threw in two mites, which make a farthing.

And he called *unto him* his disciples, and saith unto them, Verily, I say unto you, That this poor widow hath cast more in, than all they which have cast into the treasury.

For all *they* did cast in of their abundance : but she of her want did cast in all that she had, *even* all her living.

1 Pet. iv. 8 to 10.

ABOVE all things have fervent charity among yourselves : for charity shall cover the multitude of sins.

Use hospitality one to another without grudging.

As every man hath received the gift, *even* so minister the same one to another, as good stewards of the manifold grace of God.

Is. lviii. 10.

IF thou draw out thy soul to the hungry, and satisfy the afflicted soul ; then shall thy light rise in obscurity, and thy darkness *be* as the noon-day.

CHARITY.

“Above all things put on charity, which is the bond of perfectness.” *Col. iii. 14.*

FATHER ! let thy love descending
Warm my soul with rays divine ;
Oh ! let christian graces blending,
In my daily conduct shine.

Kind to others, though they harm me,
May I learn the cross to bear ;
Human foes cannot alarm me,
Satan's guile is all I fear.

Oh ! may ev'ry precious blessing
Thou hast lavish'd upon me,
Be shar'd with others not possessing
Those good gifts that come from thee.

Check each selfish—unkind feeling
This young heart hath ever known ;
Let my pray'r to thee appealing,
Make my brother's cause my own.

Not in vain shall I have striven,
If one pray'r an answer earns ;
All I have, by thee was given—
All I give, to thee returns.

Ps. xc. 1 to 10.

LORD, thou hast been our dwelling-place in all generations.

Before the mountains were brought forth, or ever thou hadst formed the earth and the world, even from everlasting to everlasting, thou *art* God.

Thou turnest man to destruction ; and sayest, Return, ye children of men.

For a thousand years in thy sight *are but* as yesterday when it is past, and *as* a watch in the night.

Thou carriest them away as with a flood ; they are *as* a sleep ; in the morning *they are* like grass *which* groweth up.

In the morning it flourisheth, and groweth up ; in the evening it is cut down, and withereth.

For we are consumed by thine anger, and by thy wrath are we troubled.

Thou hast set our iniquities before thee, our secret *sins* in the light of thy countenance.

For all our days are passed away in thy wrath : we spend our years, as a tale *that is told*.

The days of our years *are* threescore years and ten ; and if by reason of strength *they be* fourscore years, yet *is* their strength labor and sorrow ; for it is soon cut off, and we fly away.

THE CLOSING YEAR.

“So teach us to number our days, that we may apply our hearts unto wisdom.” *Psalm xc. 12.*

I HEAR the knell of the departing year
As it goes down to an unfathom'd tomb ;
How many joys are laid upon its bier—
How many hopes have set, like it, in gloom.

The worldling's cherish'd pleasures are no more,
For death hath call'd the spirit to its home ;
The dawning year, fair buds of promise bore,
Whose wish'd for fruit, to him could never come.

The friends we lov'd—the dear ones by our side,
Have one by one return'd to kindred clay ;
Each passing year goes by with rapid stride,
And tears some blessings of this life away.

Yet a bright gleam of joy illumines the past,
As mem'ry calls to mind the happy few ;
Around whose dying hour religion cast
Her glowing halo of celestial hue.

Oh ! Father, give me grace while youth is mine,
To mark the rapid flight of passing years ;
T' obey the precepts that will make me thine,
And so to live, that death may bring no fears.

Eph. vi. 11 to 18.

PUT on the whole armour of God, that ye may be able to stand against the wiles of the devil.

For we wrestle not against flesh and blood, but against principalities, against powers, against the rulers of the darkness of this world, against spiritual wickedness in high *places*.

Wherefore take unto you the whole armour of God, that ye may be able to withstand in the evil day, and having done all, to stand.

Stand therefore, having your loins girt about with truth, and having on the breast-plate of righteousness.

And your feet shod with the preparation of the gospel of peace ;

Above all, taking the shield of faith, wherewith ye shall be able to quench all the fiery darts of the wicked.

And take the helmet of salvation, and the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God :

Praying always with all prayer and supplication in the Spirit, and watching thereunto with all perseverance and supplication for all saints.

CHRISTIAN WARFARE.

“Wherefore take unto you the whole armour of God, that ye may be able to withstand in the evil day, and having done all, to stand.” *Eph.* vi. 13.

OH! speed thee, Christian, on thy way,
And to thy armour cling;
With girded loins the call obey
That grace and mercy bring.

There is a battle to be fought—
An uphill race to run—
A crown of glory to be sought—
A vict’ry to be won.

The shield of faith, will blunt the dart
That Satan’s hand may throw;
His arrow cannot reach thy heart,
If Christ control the bow.

The glowing lamp of pray’r, will light
Thee on thy anxious road;
’T will keep the goal of heav’n in sight,
And guide thee to thy God.

Oh! faint not, Christian, for thy sighs
Are heard before his throne;
The race must come before the prize—
The cross before the crown.

Ps. xv. 1 and 2.

LORD, who shall abide in thy tabernacle ? who shall dwell in thy holy hill ?

He that walketh uprightly, and worketh righteousness, and speaketh the truth in his heart.

Zech. viii. 16 and 17.

THESE *are* the things that ye shall do ; speak ye every man the truth to his neighbor ; execute the judgment of truth and peace in your gates :

And let none of you imagine evil in your hearts against his neighbor ; and love no false oath : for all these *are things* that I hate, saith the Lord.

Ps. xxxiv. 13.

KEEP thy tongue from evil, and thy lips from speaking guile.

Prov. xii. 19.

THE lip of truth shall be established for ever : but a lying tongue *is* but for a moment.

Ps. li. 6.

BEHOLD, thou desirest truth, in the inward parts : and in the hidden *part* thou shalt make me to know wisdom.

Eph. iv. 25.

WHEREFORE, putting away lying, speak every man truth with his neighbor : *for we* are members one of another.

TRUTH.

“Lying lips are abomination to the Lord; but they that deal truly are his delight.” *Prov. xii. 22.*

AMONG the varied snares of sin,
By which the tempter seeks to win
The souls of thoughtless youth,
None will so easily betray,
And lead us into danger's way,
As disregard for truth.

The word untrue, or insincere,
Will in the eye of God, appear
A sin of deepest dye;
Our motives he will closely scan,
And fathom the most subtle plan
That Satan's wile can try.

Oh! let us strive a watch to keep
Upon those thoughts, that lie so deep
Within th' unguarded soul;
That Satan may not tempt our youth,
To leave those sacred paths of truth,
That lead to Virtue's goal.

Ps. xxvii. 10.

WHEN my father and my mother forsake me,
then the Lord will take me up.

Ps. lxviii. 5.

A father of the fatherless, and a judge of the
widows, *is* God in his holy habitation.

Is. xli. 10.

FEAR thou not ; for I *am* with thee : be not dis-
mayed ; for I *am* thy God : I will strengthen thee :
yea, I will help thee : yea, I will uphold thee with
the right hand of my righteousness.

Is. xli. 13.

FOR I the Lord thy God will hold thy right hand,
saying unto thee, Fear not ; I will help thee.

Is. xliii. 2.

WHEN thou passest through the waters, I *will be*
with thee ; and through the rivers, they shall not
overflow thee : when thou walkest through the fire,
thou shalt not be burned ; neither shall the flame
kindle upon thee.

Jer. xlix. 11.

LEAVE thy fatherless children, I will preserve
them alive ; and let thy widows trust in me.

THE DESTITUTE ORPHAN'S PRAYER.

"He will regard the prayer of the destitute, and not despise their prayer." *Psalm cii. 17.*

MY Father! I am left alone,
Without a tender parent's care;
I have no friend—I have no home—
Oh! listen to the orphan's pray'r.

Be thou the guardian of my youth,
And let me thy protection share;
Instruct me in the ways of truth—
Oh! Father, 't is the orphan's pray'r.

Save me from the wiles of sin—
Save me from each worldly snare—
Make me holy, pure within—
It is the erring orphan's pray'r.

If earthly friends should be denied,
And life no cheering prospect wear;
Be thou my friend—be thou my guide—
It is the *lonely* orphan's pray'r.

Until the lamp of life decline,
Thou 'lt feed its flame with holy care;
Only make me truly thine—
Oh! Father, 't is the orphan's pray'r.

Psalm cxlviii.

PRAISE ye the Lord. Praise ye the Lord from the heavens : praise him in the heights.

Praise ye him, all his angels : praise ye him, all his hosts.

Praise ye him, sun, and moon : praise him, all ye stars of light.

Praise him, ye heavens of heavens, and ye waters that *be* above the heavens.

Let them praise the name of the Lord ; for he commanded, and they were created.

He hath also established them for ever and ever : he hath made a decree which shall not pass.

Praise the Lord from the earth, ye dragons and all deeps :

Fire, and hail ; snow, and vapor : stormy wind fulfilling his word :

Mountains, and all hills ; fruitful trees, and all cedars :

Beasts, and all cattle ; creeping things, and flying fowl :

Kings of the earth, and all people ; princes, and all judges of the earth :

Both young men, and maidens ; old men, and children :

Let them praise the name of the Lord : for his name alone is excellent ; his glory *is* above the earth and heaven.

WORKS OF CREATION.

"Thou art worthy, O Lord, to receive glory, and honor, and power, for thou hast created all things, and for thy pleasure they are and were created." *Rev. iv. 11.*

GOD gave his mandate from on high,
And earth appear'd 'mid empty space,
The wat'ry waste and vaulted sky,
Each quickly fill'd its destin'd place.

The sun, a light to rule the day—
The soften'd moon by night to shine—
The twinkling stars, and milky way—
Proclaim a power all divine.

The flocks upon a thousand hills—
The birds that haunt the summer air—
The myriads in mountain rills—
Proclaim the God that plac'd them there.

Man too, most glorious of all,
Was form'd God's crowning work to be—
The spirit at its Maker's call
Awoke to immortality.

Luke x. 38 to 42.

NOW it came to pass, as they went, that he entered into a certain village : and a certain woman, named Martha, received him into her house.

And she had a sister called Mary, which also sat at Jesus' feet, and heard his word.

But Martha was cumbered about much serving, and came to him, and said, Lord, dost thou not care that my sister hath left me to serve alone ? bid her therefore that she help me.

And Jesus answered, and said unto her, Martha, Martha, thou art careful, and troubled about many things :

But one thing is needful ; and Mary hath chosen that good part, which shall not be taken away from her.

Matt. vi. 19 to 21.

LAY not up for yourselves treasures upon earth, where moth and rust doth corrupt, and where thieves break through and steal :

But lay up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where neither moth nor rust doth corrupt, and where thieves do not break through nor steal.

For where your treasure is, there will your heart be also.

THE ONE THING NEEDFUL.

“ But one thing is needful.” Luke x. 42.

THE things of earth must soon decay,
And fade like summer flow'rs away ;
The glitt'ring treasure of the mine,
Can only until death be thine—
The one thing needful strive to gain,
Christian, thou wilt not strive in vain.

The friends of earth may now caress,
And round thy path in gladness press ;
Yet can they light thy dying hour,
Or soothe thee with a Saviour's pow'r ?
That heav'nly friend, oh strive to gain,
Christian, thou wilt not strive in vain.

The hopes of earth are broken reeds
Which pierce the heart that inly bleeds ;
They prop thee not when storms assail—
They stay thee not when comforts fail—
The hope of heav'n, oh ! strive to gain,
Christian, thou wilt not strive in vain.

Heb. xii. 22 to 24.

YE are come unto Mount Sion, and unto the city of the living God, the heavenly Jerusalem, and to an innumerable company of angels,

To the general assembly and church of the first born, which are written in heaven, and to God the Judge of all, and to the spirits of just men made perfect,

And to Jesus the Mediator of the new covenant, and to the blood of sprinkling, that speaketh better things than that of Abel.

John xiv. 2. and 3.

IN my Father's house are many mansions : if *it were not so*, I would have told you. I go to prepare a place for you.

And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again and receive you unto myself; that where I am, *there* ye may be also.

Job iii. 17 and 18.

THERE the wicked cease *from* troubling; and there the weary be at rest.

There the prisoners rest together; they hear not the voice of the oppressor.

Rev. xiv. 13.

AND I heard a voice from heaven, saying unto me, Write, Blessed *are* the dead which die in the Lord from henceforth : Yea, saith the Spirit, that they may rest from their labors; and their works do follow them.

THE HEAVENLY REST.

“Blessed are the dead which die in the Lord : yea, saith the Spirit, that they may rest from their labors.” *Rev. xiv. 13.*

REST, pilgrim, rest, the thorny path is trod
That leads to an eternal, blest abode ;
No more thy weary feet shall trembling fail—
No more the blasts of sin thy soul assail.

Rest, wand’rer, rest, the home long sought is found—
And heav’nly friends thy spirit now surround ;
The lonely pilgrimage of life is done,
A happy mansion in the skies is won.

Rest, mourner, rest, thy grief hath pass’d away—
And earth’s dark night is turn’d to endless day ;
The bitter tears no more in anguish flow—
No more thy soul can worldly sorrow know.

Rest, Christian, rest, the strife of sin is past,
And Christ hath giv’n thee victory at last ;
The crown of glory that adorns thy brow,
No earthly sin can tear it from thee now.

I John v. 5 to 12.

WHO is he that overcometh the world, but he that believeth that Jesus is the son of God ?

This is he that came by water and blood, *even* Jesus Christ ; not by water only, but by water and blood. And it is the Spirit that beareth witness, because the Spirit is truth.

For there are three that bear record in heaven, the Father, the Word, and the Holy Ghost : and these three are one.

And there are three that bear witness in earth, the spirit, and the water, and the blood : and these three agree in one.

If we receive the witness of men, the witness of God is greater : for this is the witness of God which he hath testified of his Son.

He that believeth on the Son of God hath the witness in himself : he that believeth not God, hath made him a liar, because he believeth not the record that God gave of his Son.

And this is the record, that God hath given to us eternal life : and this life is in his Son.

He that hath the Son, hath life ; *and* he that hath not the Son of God, hath not life.

SONG OF THANKSGIVING TO THE
TRINITY.

“ For there are three that bear record in heaven, the Father, the Word, and the Holy Ghost : and these three are one.” 1 John v. 7.

FATHER ! let my spirit praise thee
For the good thy hand bestows ;
Let me prize the grace that saves me,
And the love that from thee flows.

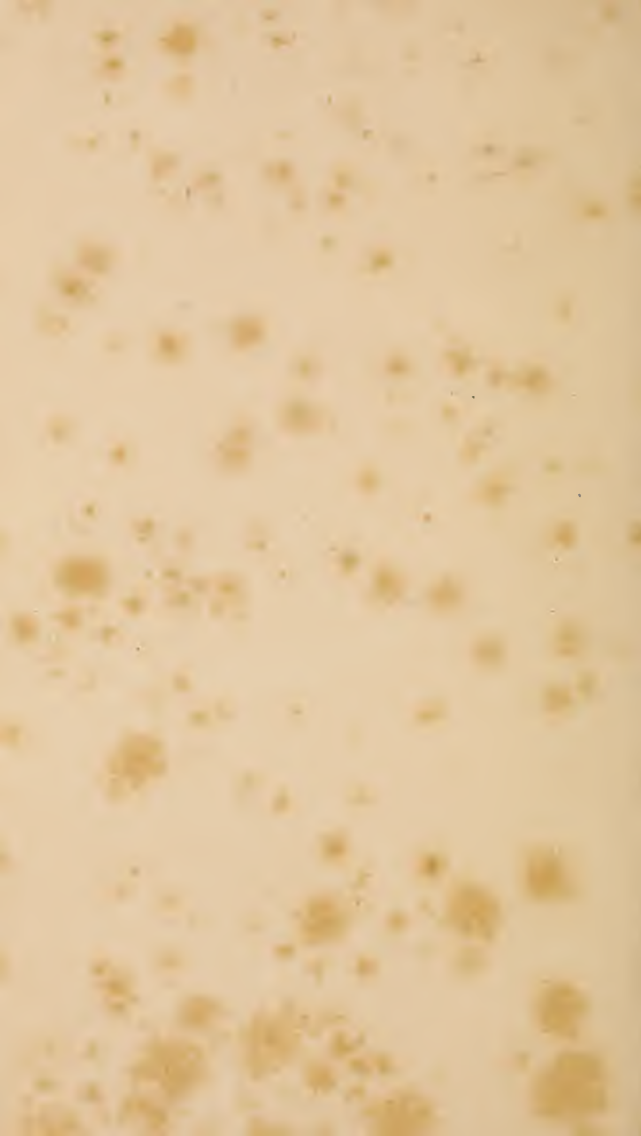
Saviour ! let me ever bless thee
For the mercy thou hast shown ;
Sin and sorrow may distress me—
But thou claim'st me as thy own.

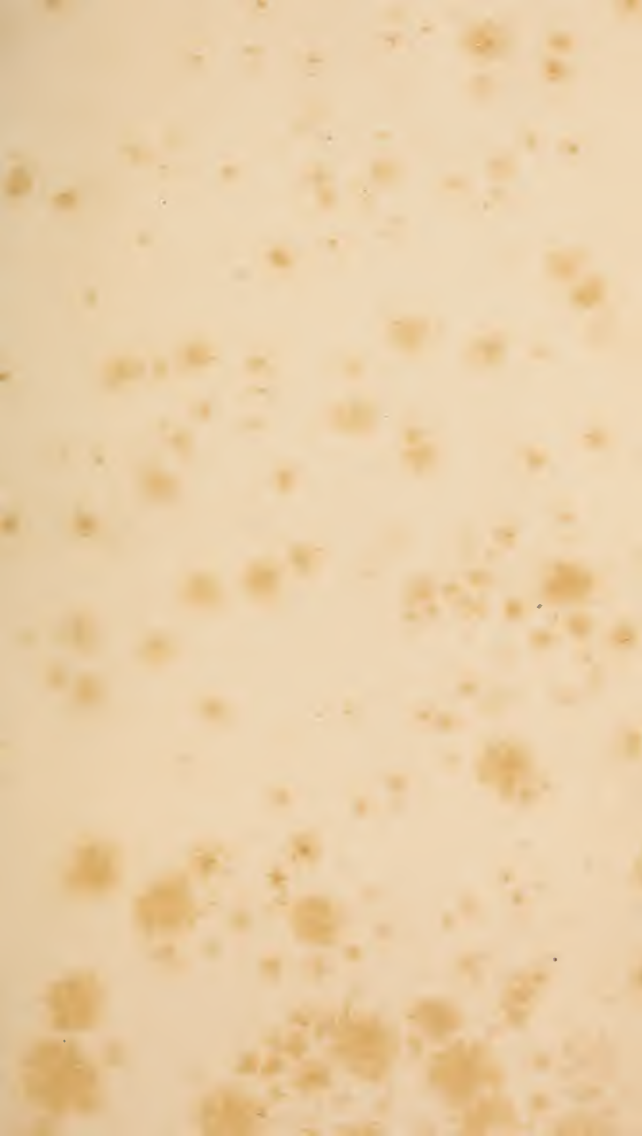
Spirit ! may I ever prize thee
For thy sanctifying care ;
For the peace this world denies me,
And the happiness I share.

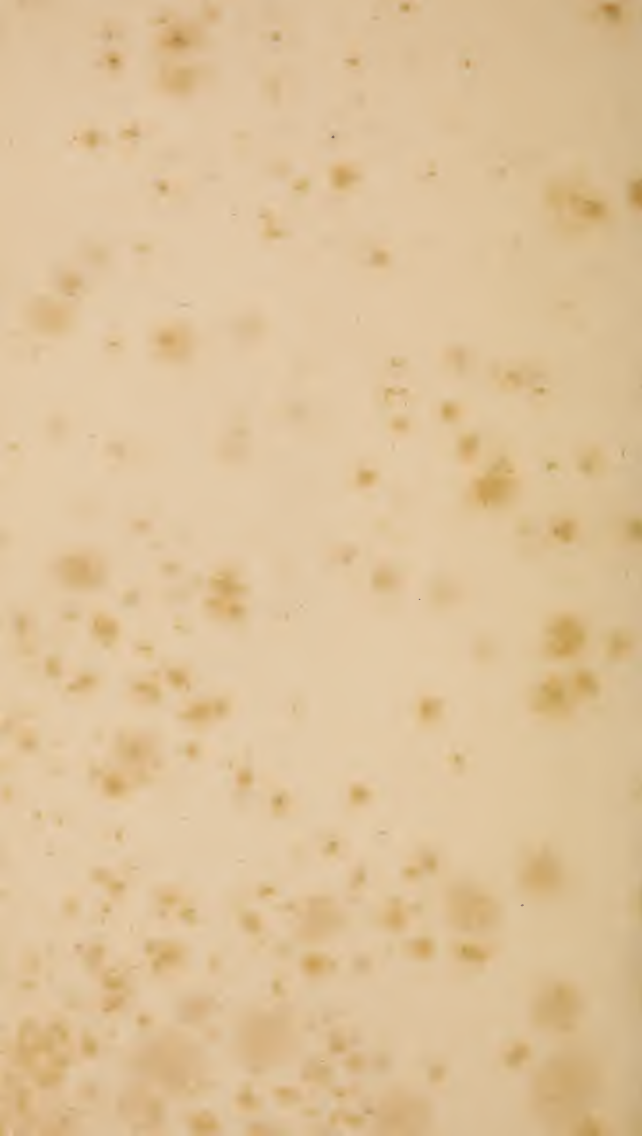
Father, Son, and Spirit blending,
Holy Trinity I praise ;
Blessings to thy throne ascending,
From my youthful heart I raise.











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